

THE POUCH

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ENGLAND CAPTURES KIEL

73-2

Fall 1903

Austria-Hungary (Michael Wolff, -1)

FAlb-Gre, ASerSFAlb-Gre, ATri-Vie,
ABud-Rum, ABulsARum-Con (elim.)

England (Luis Restrepo, +1)

FBelSFeng, FDenSAHol-Kie, FengSFBel,
AHol-Kie, FNthCAYor-N, FNwg-Bar,
FSwe-Bal, AYor-N

France (Evan Jones)

ABre-Par, FMid, AMar-Bur, AGass
AMar-Bur, Pic-Bel

Germany (Phil Con, -1)

ABurSAPic-Bel (-Mun), AMun-Ber,
FKie-Hol (-Hel)

Italy (Eric Robinson, +2)

FIon-Aeg, FConSFion-Aeg, AVen,
AGreSABul (elim.)

Russia (Alex Katzoff, +1)

FSevSAUkr-Rum, AUkr-Rum, FBal-Swe,
AGalsARum-Bud

Turkey (Duncan Smith, +1)

ARum-Bud, FAeg-Bul, FBlaSFAeg-Bul

Our apologies to Phil Con for
mis-spelling his name in our
last issue.

* * *

remember-- For every new subscriber
you send us, we send you a free
issue.

RUSSIA GAINS TWO

72-1

Fall 1907

England (Eric Robinson, -1)

FWal-Lon, AYorSFWal-Lon, FDen-Nth

France (Nicholas Ulanov, -1)

AGas-Bur, AVen-Tri (-Apu), APie-Ven,
FWMed, FNat-Liv, FMid-Iri, FLon (-En)

Germany (Miles Smith)

AMunSFBer, FBer, FHelSAKie-Den,
AKie-Den, ARuhSAMun

Russia (Paul Neumann, +2)

ATyr-Ven, ATriSATyr-Ven, AVieSATri,
ABud-Ser, ARum, ASil, APru, FBals,
ASwe-Den, FSkaSASwe-Den, FSkaSASwe-Den,
ASwe-Den

Turkey (Mark Robinson)

FTyrCATus-Smy, ATus-Smy, FIonCATus-Smy,
FEMedCATus-Smy, FRom, FAlbSAVen-Tri,
ASerSAVen-Tri, FAeg-Con, ABulsASer

HO-HUM

73-1

Spring 1904

Austria-Hungary (Bruce Wachtler)

AGal-Vie, ABud-Tri, ASer-Bul, FGre,
AAlbSFGre

England (Andrew Wynn)

FEdi-Nth, FLonSFedi-Nth, FNth-Ska,
FCly-Nwg

France (Raymond Heuer)

(continued on page 4)

THE POUCH

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Guest articles are welcome. We pay one free issue for every article.

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We are very pleased to announce that with this issue we expand our coverage of wargames in general as well as Diplomacy. We begin this departure from our past policy of dealing only with Diplomacy with the first in a series of articles by our new contributing editor, Bob Mosca. His excellent article on the game Phalanx starts on page 5. We enjoyed it very much and think you will too.

We take this step to increase our audience appeal and cater to our Diplomacy readers, most of whom also play wargames.

We feel this is our best issue yet. We thus continue our past performance record of improving measurably with every issue. Once again, we want to extend an invitation to any of you who feel the urge to write and send us an article or two.

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back issues (if we have them): 50¢

THE ART OF WRITING A PRESS RELEASE

by Penelope Naughton Dickens

To think that a press release can only be thought of as a dirty joke is an error of judgement. A press release if written correctly and with care can be funny and can avoid being vulgar all in one stroke. It is true that throughout history the vulgar has always been acclaimed as being humorous. As of yet no press release published in The POUCH has been pristine. Almost all have had some reference to sexual acts, and some to ethnic humour but few have dwelt upon the realm of the ridiculous. As an example here is the press release of Evan Jones' which went this way (and I am sorry to quote):

OPERATION

World War ½. Isle of the Winds, Dodecanese Islands,
somewhere in the Mid-Atlantic Ocean.
March 17, 1902 VD (vox dei).

Many

Are

Still

Taking

Up

Rapid

Beating

And

Fittilation

Involving

Oneself

Nightly

(BRD SHT or WHODONEIT): The Governor of Patmos in the Dodecanese Islands, was indicted on charges of raping fifty-nine Portuguese virgins yesterday (he was indicted today; he did the raping yesterday). He was acquitted, although it was feared that bribery had a hand in it. But the Dodecanese withdrew from Portugal and will remain so until the heat is off.

Peter Pierre,
King of the Dodecanese

When I read this, I was struck by the sheer vulgarity that pervaded from that sheet of paper. This in itself did not make the press release bad but the fact that it was totally non-humorous did. If you wish to use abnormal and rather perverted amounts of vulgarity and filth, the least you could do is to make it humorous. The new version of this press release, the so-called censored one, was substantially more humorous than the unexpurgated original.

There are basically two types of press releases. There is the one that is supposed to be humorous such as Paul Neumann's and Duncan Smith's in the last issue and then there is the serious diplomatic one such as Nicholas Ulanov's. There is no doubt that it is easier to write the latter rather than the former. To write a humorous piece you have to make sure that the press release is funny to all and not just to yourself. A serious and diplomatic press release is relatively easy to write as long as it doesn't give you or the reader the feeling that the foreign ambassador of that country has the maturity of a four-year-old. I shall now attempt to classify the three most basic types of press release:

1. The serious press release, example: Nicholas Ulanov's in the last issue.
2. The ridiculous press release, example: Paul Neumann's in the last issue.
3. The ethnic joke press release, example: Duncan Smith's in the last issue.

The last two are both of the humorous type, and I shall now attempt to deal with them further using Paul Neumann's press release as the primary example. Paul Neumann's press release is only funny if one can

visualize the ridiculous situations that occur such as the shameless defecation, the annexation of Poland (an ethnic joke in itself) and a declaration of war upon Switzerland. Paul Neumann uses these situations quite well to bring out the fact that Baron von Neumann is quite insane. The rest of the press release fits into the third category, that of the ethnic joke (i.e., Poles and Jews).

As you have seen, press releases can be quite entertaining and I therefore urge everyone to make at least an effort to have his or her press release published in The POUCH.

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Diplomacy moves (continued from page one)

ABur-Mar, AGasSABur-Mar, APar-Bur, FSpa (SC)-GLy, FMid-Iri

Germany (Mark Robinson)

AMun-Tyr, FSwe-Ska, ADen-Swe, FKie-Den, FHol-Nth, ABel, AWar-Mos, ALivSAWar-Mos

Italy (Duncan Smith)

APie-Mar, FGLySAPie-Mar, FWMed-Spa(SC), ATun

Russia (Michael Hansen)

AFin-Nwy, AStPSAFin-Nwy

Turkey (Miles Smith)

ACon-Gre, FAegCACon-Gre, ABulSACon-Gre, FIonSACon-Gre, FRumSABul, ASevSFRum

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press releases

I

73-2 (FREE TURKEY PRESS) Ankara April 1, 1903

The Turkish armies have repaid the Austrian imperialist pigs for their vicious double-cross in their attack on Bulgaria and Greece in Spring. It was reported from a reliable source that all Austrian prisoners taken were burnt at the stake. When asked why, Field Marshal Said Abdul Pasha answered that it had been quite a while since he had roasted marshmallows.

OPERATION

Phallic (Phallic)	73-2 March 17, 1903 VD
Unrest	(BRD SHT or WHODONEIT): Our faithful court reporter took detailed records of today's trial.
Can	Judge: This court will come to order.
Keep	Defendant: How does fifty-thousand dollars sound to you?
Any	Judge: Case dismissed.
Nationality	After the trial the judge was seen at the Bar mixing a martini for the defendant. Peter, Pierre, King of the Dodecanese.
Anti	"Justice don't run no bar." J.B. Semple
Trustworthy	
In	
Occasional	
Negotiations	

With this issue, we begin a departure from our normal diplomacy based articles and bring you a series of additional scenarios for S.P.I's line of tactical games.
TAC 18 PHALANX:

BACKGROUND: Following the magnificent victory over the persians at Arbela 324 BC, Alexander the Great continued his march eastward into Bactria, the Sind and the Indus Valley. Alexander's reasons for continuing the campaign into the lands of India, especially after smashing Persia, boil down to one basic reason; Alexander wanted to complete his conquest of Darius' empire in its entirety ("Asia" at the time meant Darius' Empire).

OPPOSING ARMIES: MACEDONIANS: The once great Macedonian Cavalry had been greatly reduced in numbers, so much so that only one squadron in each of Alexander's five hipparchis consisted of Macedonian horse. The remainder of his cavalry, some 5,000 men in all, consisted of 1,000 horse archers and his mercenary and empire troops. The only unit up to the standard strength of veterans was the Royal Guard of some 300-500 men.

The Infantry still held to its excellent standards and was not "empirialized" as was the cavalry. It numbered some 3,000 hypastists and 3,000 men of the macedonian phalanx now divided into 10 battalions. Accompanying the heavy infantry were the excellent Javelin men of Aggrian and a body of Cretan Archers (3,000 men and 2,000 men respectively). A covering force under Coenus, some 15,000 men, stayed behind on the West Bank of the Hydaspes.

INDIANS: The army of King Porus consisted of 30,000 infantry and 3-4,000 cavalry. The infantry was divided into pikemen and archers. The archers were the crack troops carrying longbows and capable of powerful range, however, the torrential rains, which had allowed Alexander to make a surprise night crossing, also muddied the ground, to the effect that the Indian Bows which because of their size had to have one end rested on the ground, were caked with mud and thus rendered useless. The mud also hampered the use of Porus' 200 chariots, which because of the terrain played no part in the battle. The cavalry was of the medium type

and posted on either wing. The mainstay of Porus' were his war elephants, some 200 in number.

Before relating the narrative of the battle I would like to go into the use of Elephants in battle. The use of Elephants was threefold: 1) screen against cavalry (its most successful usage, example: Demetrius' victory at Ipsus). 2) to attack infantry (Porus' use). 3) to charge fortified positions; Cavalry frightened by their size and trumpetry were useless against them. Hydraspes River was the west's first encounter with elephants as at Guagamala they were not used.

THE BATTLE: Upon receiving word of Alexander's continued advance into the Indus Valley, King Porus occupied the East bank of the Hydraspes River, posting his elephants as pickets to guard the ford crossing. To cross the river, Alexander ordered his boats to be divided into 3 parts and convoyed to the Hydraspes River via wagons. Because of the elephants trumpetry, Alexander could not assault the the pickets across the river as the horses greatly fear elephants. Instead he resolved to use a series of feints designed to wear down the watch of the Indian pickets. Each night Alexander sent out his cavalry to give the impression of an attack. Porus after several false alarms relaxed his vigil. Alexander was now ready for the crossing. Splitting his force in two, he detailed Craterus with 3,000 cavalry, 3,000 infantry and 5,000 Indian Allies to hold Porus in position while he crossed with 5,000 cavalry and some 10,000 infantry. That night amidst a torrential rain-storm, Alexander crossed with his cavalry and next morning defeated a reconnaissance in force lead by Porus' son. Soon Alexander's infantry crossed over and they settled down to await battle the next day. Porus meanwhile, advanced to meet Alexander leaving only a small force behind to watch Craterus. Craterus had been ordered to stay on the right bank unless all of Porus' elephants went against Alexander in which case Craterus was to cross and attack Porus' army in the rear.

Porus' troops were deployed as follows: His elephants were in the front rank purpose of warding off Alexander's horse and attacking the Macedon infantry. Behind the elephants Porus deployed his spearmen in columns of 20 ranks

instead of the normal 10. Extending the infantry line on the flanks of the elephants were the archers and deployed next to these was the cavalry.

Earlier that day Alexander had reconnoitered Porus' army and had ascertained Porus' weakness in cavalry. He therefore deployed his five hipparchies (one of horse archers) well to the right and in advance of his infantry.

Alexander's plan was as follows; all Alexander's cavalry would defeat the Indian Cavalry and prevent it from falling on the flanks of his infantry as they advanced and engaged Porus's elephants and infantry.

To open the battle Alexander first sent his horse archers which proceeded to attack the exposed archers on Porus' left flank. Alexander then sent hipparchies under Coenus to his left flank, hidden by a hill. Porus, seeing only half of Alexander's cavalry present, massed his cavalry on his left and charged. As Alexander engaged with the Indian Cavalry, Coenus, seeing the ruse work, turned back to the right and attacked the enemy cavalry in the rear.

With the defeat of the Indian Cavalry it was now safe for the Macedonian infantry to advance. The first of the infantry to close was Aggrian's excellent javelin men who proceeded to disrupt the line of elephants. Then the main body of the infantry closed and were sent reeling backwards. A second more determined attack finally succeeded and here a hammer and blow type action continued for quite some time. Alexander led his cavalry to the Indian rear to encircle the Indian Army. The elephants were used as mobile platforms for the Indian dart and were successful in pinning the Macedonian Phalanx and curtailing any maneuvering. Eventually the superior training of the Macedonians came into its own and the Indian infantry was pushed back into the elephants. The elephants, throughout the battle had provided support for the infantry, but the Macedonian infantry closed too fast for an elephant charge and by the end of the battle most of the elephants had either been captured or stampeded. Evening saw the end of the battle when the Indians had been completely routed and Craterus finally took up the pursuit.

THE SCENARIO:

MACEDONIANS: 6*HY/6 MX/4 CA/4 JV/2 PL/2 OG/1 MY/5 MC/2 LC/CM 1,2,3

Use Alexander rule; Deploy M6; Vic:DEC; Army II; PV 178/PL 80

INDIANS: 10 PH/15 MH/8 SK/2 LC/5 MC/10*EL

Deploy K6; Vic:Tac; Army II; PV 221/PL 90

* Note: It is necessary to make or convert additional units as they are not provided for in the game.

If macedonians win too easily, increase number of elephants to 20.

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Cambridges Histories of India, The Ancient World

The Generalship of Alexander the Great by J.C. Fuller

Hellenistic Military and Naval Development -Lecture II: Horses and Elephants by

J.N. Tarn

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press release

73-1 (WOP RELEASE) Rome April 1, 1904 Field Marshal Ollivetti declared the attack on Marseille a huge success. The Imperial Guard suffered only 90% casualties, less than in any other battle since the days of the Roman Empire. It was also unfortunately announced that a mercenary general who goes by the name of Baron von Neumann was not a casualty.

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next week: moves

PAX